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Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05
AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04
USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
/117 W
----------110955Z 122157 /22
R 110925Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0007
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TH
SUBJECT: FOREIGN INTEREST GROWING IN GAS PIPELINE

REF: BANGKOK 4264 (NOTAL; BANGKOK 5093 (NOTAL)

1. ON BASIS SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS WITH RTG AND INDUSTRY SOURCES, IT APPEARS THERE ARE FIVE GROUPS, TWO OF THEM U.S., SERIOUSLY SEEKING TO LAND CONTRACT TO CONSTRUCT PIPELINE TO CARRY NATURAL GAS TO BANGKOK FROM DEPOSITS IN GULF OF SIAM:

A. BROWN AND ROOT INTERNATIONAL. MANAGER (SMITH) TELE-PHONED EMBOFF TODAY TO REPORT BRI TEAM FROM TEXAS WILL MEET WITH MINISTER OF INDUSTRY MARCH 16 REGARDING BRI PROPOSAL TO SELL IRANIAN OIL TO RTG, THEN LOAN MONEY TO RTG TO FINANCE
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LOCAL COSTS OF PIPELINE AND OTHER MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. MR. SMITH, WHO HAS MADE CALLS AT CENTRAL BANK AND AT SEVERAL MINISTRIES, IS GREATLY ENCOURAGED BY PROSPECTS FOR HIS PROPOSAL. HE PLANS TO RETURN TO TEHRAN MARCH 20 AND TO RETURN TO BANGKOK IN EARLY APRIL FOR EXTENDED PERIOD. MR. SMITH DOUBTS THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF A SWEETNENER (SUCH AS HIS OIL SALE PROPOSAL) THAT AN AMERICAN FIRM STANDS

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MUCH CHANCE OF SECURING THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT.

B. MCDERMOTT, INC. OF LOUISIANA. MCDERMOTT TEAM SHOWED PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION FILM TO GROUP OF GOVERNMENT LEADERS EARLY IN 1976 AND IS PREPARING AGAIN TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES WITH RTG, REPORTEDLY IN COMPANY WITH A JAPANESE PARTNER.

C. A JAPANESE GROUP, HEADED BY MISUBISHI, HAS REPORTEDLY PRESENTED CONSTRUCTION PROPOSAL TO MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY; IT INCLUDES PROPOSAL TO SUPPLY PIPE AND FOR FINANCING. JAPANESE EMBASSY IS LOBBYING HARD ON BEHALF OF MITSUBISHI.

D. ETPM, A MAJOR FRENCH CONSTRUCTION FIRM, HAS PRESENTED PACKAGE CONSTRUCTION PROPOSAL WICH INCLUDES FINANCING, REPORTEDLY AT CONCESSIONAL RATES. FRENCH EMBASSY, ORIGINALLY BROUGHT INTO PICTURE DURING TENURE OF MAJ. GEN. CHATICHAI CHOONHAVEN AS MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, IS ACTIVELY SUPPORTING THE ETPM PROPOSAL. FRENCH FIRM, SOFREGAZ, HAS NEARLY COMPLETED GAS MARKETING STUDY COMMISSIONED BY MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY.

E. BRITISH GAS CORPORATION, HIRED BY THE RTG AS CONSULTANT IN GAS PRICE STRUCTURE TALKS WITH UNION OIL CO., HAS FORMED A CONSORTIUM TO SEEK CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AND WILL PRESENT PROPOSAL TO THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY MARCH 21. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF BRITISH EMBASSY ROLE.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BANGKOK 4264, 77 BANGKOK 5093
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3143765
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN INTEREST GROWING IN GAS PIPELINE
TAGS: ENRG, TH, (SMITH, DON B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b3e13dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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